

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

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CIA WASHDC PRIORITY

ALL USCONS MEXICO BY POUCH

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SUBJECT: GOM ERADICATION AND ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY REPORT,
AUGUST 14-20, AND FIELD OPERATIONS THROUGH AUGUST 25, 1978

1. GOM ERADICATION AND ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS FOR THE 33RD
WEEK OF 1978 ARE OUTLINED BELOW. FIGURES IN
PARENTHESIS REFLECT CUMULATIVE TOTALS SINCE DECEMBER 1977.

ERADICATION, AUGUST 14 - 20, 1978

ZONES	5-9	3-4	1-2	TOTAL
A. POPPY FIELDS	4	0	93	97 (15,799)
B. HECTARES	.55	0	.59	1.14 (1265)
C. MARIHUANA FIELDS	30	40	579	649 (5446)
D. HECTARES	1.38	.53	99.24	101.15 (706)
E. MIXED FIELDS	0	0	1	1 (114)
F. HECTARES	0	0	.02	.02 (18)

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ENFORCEMENT, AUGUST 14-20, 1978

- THIS PERIOD CUMULATIVE

A. KG HEROIN	2.14	90.86
B. KG OPIUM	0	299.485
C. KG OPIUM SEED	0	98.09

D. HEROIN LABS	0	16
E. HASHISH/MARIHUANA LABS	0	2
F. DANGEROUS DRUGS LABS	0	3
G. KG COCAINE	0.017	52.657
H. KG MARIHUANA	4146.0	427,573.00
I. KG MARIHUANA SEED	14.5	1,808.23
J. KG HASHISH	0	63.875
K. LITERS HASHISH OIL	0	.250
L. KG PEYOTE	0	22.02
M. D.U. DANGEROUS DRUGS	950,000.	22,278,602.00
N. DANGEROUS DRUG TABLET		
- MACHINES	0	3
O. ARRESTS, MEXICAN	113	3262
P. ARRESTS, U.S.	1	106
Q. OTHER	0	34
R. VEHICLES	14	499
S. WEAPONS	43	1040
T. AMMUNITION	2375	41,501
U. PESOS	0	\$3,217,288.00
V. DOLLARS	0	75,432.00
W. AIRCRAFT	0	31
X. VESSELS	0	3

2. ERADICATION STATISTICS FOR THE 33RD WEEK OF 1978
 COMPARED WITH THOSE FOR THE SAME PERIOD IN 1977 SHOW 97
 POPPY FIELDS COVERING 1.14 HECTARES DESTROYED IN 1978
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AS COMPARED TO 384 POPPY FIELDS COVERING 8.35 HECTARES
 DESTROYED DURING 1977. FIGURES FOR 1978 SHOW AN APPROXI-
 MATE 75 PERCENT REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF FIELDS DESTROYED
 AND AN APPROXIMATE 86 PERCENT DECREASE IN THE NUMBER OF
 HECTARES DESTROYED COMPARED TO 1977 FIGURES. THE MAJORITY
 OF POPPY ERADICATION ACTIVITY DURING THIS PERIOD CONTINUES
 IN ZONE II, CHILPANCINGO, GUERRERO, AS IN 1977.

3. FIELD OPERATIONS:

A. JOINT EVALUATION TEAM RECON FLIGHTS: THE JOINT TEAM
 COVERED A TOTAL OF 22 SECTORS IN ZONES I AND II LOCATED IN
 THE STATES OF NUEVO LEON, TAMULIPAS, SAN LUIS POTOSI, AND
 VERA CRUZ. ONLY THREE MARIHUANA FIELDS WERE DETECTED AND
 SPRAYED. THE JOINT TEAM HAS YET TO LOCATE ANY POPPY FIELDS
 SINCE THE FLIGHTS INITIATED THREE WEEKS AGO. THE ASSIS-
 TANCE ATTACHE CONFERRED WITH EXECUTIVE OFFICER BAEZA ON
 AUGUST 22 TO PROPOSE ABORTING RECON FLIGHTS IN THE
 SOUTHERN AREAS DUE TO DELAY IN PROJECTED SCHEDULE CAUSED
 BY BOTH WEATHER AND LOGISTICS PROBLEMS. BAEZA AGREED TO
 PROPOSAL AND JOINT TEAM WAS INSTRUCTED TO MOVE IMMEDIATELY
 TO ZONE II (STATE OF GUERRERO) FROM THEIR PRESENT POSITION
 IN JALAPA, STATE OF VERA CRUZ (SECTOR 266). ANALYST

TIMILTY DISENGAGED FROM JOINT TEAM ON AUG 23 AS HE WAS SUBPOENED FOR DEA CASE IN AMARILLO. DURING BRIEFING SESSION ON AUG 24, ANALYST TIMILTY UNDERSCORED A METICULOUS RECON WAS MADE OF AREAS COVERED; ESPRIT-DE-COPRS AND CAMARADERIE BETWEEN AG AND US PERSONNEL WAS HARMONIOUS AND EFFECTIVE; THERE HAD BEEN NO HOSTILE INCIDENTS DURING THE MISSIONS FLOWN; HOWEVER, TRANSPORTATION FROM AIRFIELDS TO BUILT-UP AREAS FOR CREWS OVERNIGHT STAY WAS DEFICIENT AND SECURITY FOR THE AIRCRAFT WAS A PROBLEM IF NO MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE AREA.

B. ZONE 02: CHILPANCINGO, STATE OF GUERRERO: ON AUGUST 24,

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SPRAY SHIP SC-BUG FLOWN BY CAPT. VALENCIA LANDED AT RECHARGE POINT BY RIVER TO PICK UP EQUIPMENT AFTER COMPLETION OF SPRAYING OPERATIONS. SUPPORT SHIP ALSO LANDED TO ASSIST LOADING OF EQUIPMENT. PILOTS THOUGHT THEY HEARD A GUNSHOT IN SPITE OF NOISE MADE BY BOTH TURBINES. BOTH AIRCRAFT LIFTED OFF AND RETURNED TO BASE WHERE AN INSPECTION OF MAIN ROTOR BLADE REVEALED UNKNOWN CALIBRE PROJECTILE HAD NICKED FORWARD EDGE APPROXIMATELY 30 INCHES FROM TIP. DAMAGE TO BLADE WAS MARGINAL AND SHIP RETURNED TO OPERATIONAL STATUS AFTER MINOR MAINTENANCE.

4. TECHNICAL SUPPORT:

A. TELECOMMUNICATIONS: NAU TECHNICIAN CARPENTER TRAVELED TO CULIACAN TO MONITOR THE PROGRESS ON THE TOWER CONSTRUCTION FOR THE OFFSHORE NAVIGATIONS, INC. (ONI) LORAN-C PROPAGATION TESTS SCHEDULED FOR CULIACAN DURING THE WEEK OF

AUGUST 28. THE FEASIBILITY STUDY WAS APPROVED BY S/NM UNDER A CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN THE A.G. OFFICE AND ONI FROM THE FIELD SUPPORT FUNDS. FYI: DURING THE NASA TECHNICAL TEAM VISIT THE SUBJECT OF A PRECISION NAVIGATIONAL SYSTEM WAS ADDRESSED DURING MEETING WITH BAEZA AND HIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SENIOR STAFF: IT IS OBVIOUS THAT NASA IS EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITY OF ENHANCING DISTANCE MEASURING EQUIPMENT (DME) TRANSMITTER SITES IN THE NORTHWESTERN ZONE WITH ON-BOARD DMES IN THE HELICOPTERS. END FYI.

B. E-SYSTEMS CONTRACT: THE DCASPRO TEAM ARRIVED AS SCHEDULED ON AUGUST 22; MET WITH EMBASSY NARCOTICS OFFICERS ON THE SAME DATE AND MET WITH EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND HIS SENIOR STAFF ON THE SAME EVENING FOR INTRODUCTION AND ORIENTATION BY BAEZA. BAEZA STRESSED THAT A.G. FLORES ORDERED AN OBJECTIVE EVALUATION CONDUCTED JOINTLY WITH NO TEMERITY OF CRITICISMS. HE DID NOT WANT THE FINAL REPORT TO DEGENERATE INTO A MUTUAL ADMIRATION SOCIETY. ON THE MORNING OF AUGUST 25, BAEZA HOSTED A BREAKFAST AND WORKING SESSION FOR BOTH DCASPRO, NAU, AND A.G. REPRESENTATIVES IN THE A.G. CONFERENCE ROOM. DCASPRO TEAM LEADER DUREN PROVIDED A PROGRESS REPORT ON THE EVALUATION AND ADDRESSED THE TEAM'S PRELIMINARY FINDINGS RELATIVE TO THE OBJECTIVES SPECIFIED IN THE E-SYSTEMS CONTRACT. THUS FAR, DCASPRO TEAM JUDGES E-SYSTEMS PRIORITY FOCUSSED ON MAINTENANCE AND AVAILABILITY WITH ONLY A MARGINAL EFFORT IN TRAINING AND FEW RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF PROCEDURES WITHIN THE SYSTEMS CONCEPT. BAEZA SCHEDULED ANOTHER PROGRESS REPORT FOR WEDNESDAY EVENING, AUGUST 30.

C. FLIGHT OPERATIONS:

1) AVIATION ADVISOR CARSON COMPLETED THE EVALUATION OF THE NINE AERO SERVICES PILOTS RECENTLY RETURNED FROM THE SOUTHLAND TRAINING COURSE. CARSON JUDGES ALL NINE WOULD HAVE PASSED A 75-HOUR CHECK WITH EITHER BELL HELICOPTER INCOR. (BHI) OR FORT RUCKER. CERTAIN DEFICIENCIES NOTED FALL IN A UNIVERSAL PATTERN OF UNSAFE PRACTICES WHICH WERE DISCUSSED TELEPHONICALLY WITH SOUTHLAND FOR MAJOR EMPHASIS WITH STUDENTS PRESENTLY IN TRAINING. FIVE OF RECENTLY RETURNED MODEL 206 PILOTS WERE ASSIGNED TO THE ZONES; THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REMAINING FOUR WILL REMAIN IN MEXICO CITY FOR FURTHER FLIGHT CHECKS BY CARSON.

2) PILOT TRAINING PROJECT: DIRECTOR PONCE ROJAS FROM THE TRAINING INSTITUTE IS SCHEDULED TO DEPART FOR LONG BEACH,

CA., ON AUG 27 TO ESCORT THE LAST GROUP OF PILOTS FOR TRAINING AT SOUTHLAND, WHICH BRINGS TOTAL TO 25 UNDER THE TERMS OF LETTER OF AGREEMENT.

3) EXECUTIVE OFFICER BAEZA EXECUTED AN AG OFFICE CONTRACT WITH DOSS AVIATION REPRESENTATIVE FOR SERVICES OF TWO BILINGUAL, HIGH-TIME, MODEL 206 HELICOPTER INSTRUCTOR PILOTS WITH ARRIVAL DATE FIRST WEEK IN SEPTEMBER.

COMMENT: EMBASSY JUDGES THIS ACTION WILL TAKE PRESSURE OFF AERO SERVICES PILOT REQUIREMENTS BY DISENGAGING ITS EXPERIENCED PILOTS FROM TRAINING RESPONSIBILITIES AND PLACING THEM IN OPERATIONAL STATUS. FLMACOLINI, JD MCLAUGHLIN, VDMCANINCH

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